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The Black Mirror news

Reflections

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Vol.5 - No. 1 • JANUARY 2000

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stand, divided
we fall - page 3

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To love my people shouldn't imply I hate others ...

(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

NEW JERSEY EDITION

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On our cover

Young, gifted and moving up

MS. PAULA CRAY, a N.H.A. resident of Stephen Crane Village, is a recent graduate of Bloomfield College with a Bachelor Science Degree in Biology. (1999) She is the mother of one daughter, Zainab.

In April 2000, she will take the medical admissions exam at the University of Medical and Dentistry in Newark, pursuing a Ph.D. in medicine.

Since 1992, this young lady, a former graduate of Central High School in Newark, began a business venture with her sisters called Cray Maintenance, and continued to attend Bloomfield College to completion of her degree in Biology. Their company services many major accounts, including Jordan Baris, several banks, and corporate offices throughout the Essex County area.

Paula also finds time to advocate on behalf of animals. She has become a "foster parent" for stray and abandoned animals through the Summit Animals League in Summit, NJ.

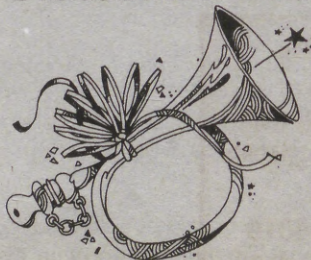
Her proud mother, Vernell Cray-Goethe is a office supervisor at Newark Housing Authority Warehouse Division. Special thanks to Mrs. Gloria Currey Williams, Delmore Washington and Mr. Carl Brinson for all their support.

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POLLY TICKS

A house united can never be defeated!



U.S. Representative (10th District) Congressman Donald Payne, Essex County Democratic Party Chairman, John Giblin and NJ State Assemblyman Leroy Jones of East Orange.

Essex County Executive James Treffinger is working overtime in his attempts at destroying the incredible unity which now exist within the ranks of the Essex County Democratic Party.

It certainly is to Mr. Treffinger's political advantage to keep as much turmoil within the Democrats' ranks as possible, "after all," said a longtime party loyalist, "this guy (Treffinger) has beaten us twice."

But one look at the November 2nd General Election Results will convince even the most "doubting-Thomas" among us, that the Essex County Democratic Party has finally gotten its act together.

The county-wide party ticket selected by Democratic Chairman Thomas Giblin, won every race in which the party ran a candidate.

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Not too many people have given Mr. Giblin the credit he deserves for deftly bringing together disparate factions within the Democratic Party. Those same critics however, have been quick to criticize Mr. Giblin the past, for Party infighting.

While the Essex County Democratic Party's showing on November 2nd was nothing short of spectacular, Mr. Giblin must purge the Party of those "situational-Democrats" who insist upon the luxury of picking and choosing Democratic candidates that they are willing to support. If Democratic Party officeholders and officials are not willing to support "ALL" of the Party's standardbearers, they should be kicked out of the Party.

As for Mr. Treffinger, he has proven to be a very resilient politician who the Democrats can count on to continue creating confusion within their ranks. But, we believe that Democratic Party Chairman Thomas Giblin is more than up to the task. There will be no three-time charm for Republican James Treffinger.



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Think JON CORZINE... Think

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Jon Corzine with his campaign manager, Christy Davis, Esq. Ms. Davis is the first African-American woman to serve as campaign manager for a U.S. Senate candidate in New Jersey. Ms. Davis is a graduate of Rutgers Law School and served as State Director for Sen. Frank Lautenberg, as well as former Chief of Staff for the late Sen. Wynona Lipman.

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I DON'T ACCEPT THE DIVISIONS

BETWEEN URBAN AND SUBURBAN,

BLACK AND WHITE, LATINO AND ASIAN,

NORTH AND SOUTH, PH.D. AND

NO DEGREE. WE ARE ONE SOCIETY

AND WE HAVE TO ADVANCE TOGETHER."

Excerpt from Jon Corzine announcement to run for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate, September 23, 1999

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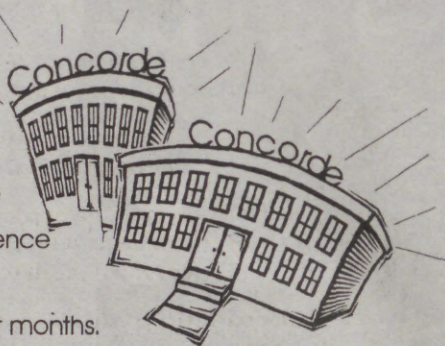
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completion of 1200 Hour Cosmetology Course.

PHOTOS

SHERATON, WOODBRIDGE - Newark Councilman-At-Large and NJ Assemblyman Donald Tucker with some of the speakers at his annual Black Issues Convention, including entertainer Queen Latifah.

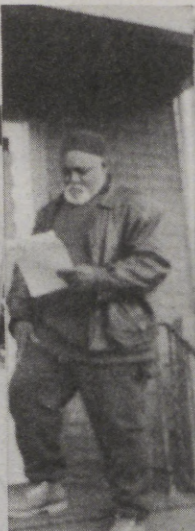
(Below): Educator Dana Owens, elicits a smile from her daughter, Queen Latifah, with her question from the floor.
(3 photos)



Democratic Breakfast

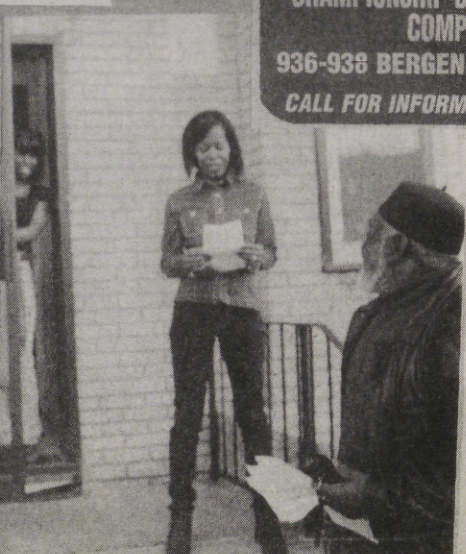
Among the many attending were Mayor Sharpe James, Congressman Bill Payne, Democratic U.S. Senate candidate Jon Corzine, Freholder Henry Martinez, John James, Jimmy Parrillo, NHA's Daniel Gibson and others.





The First Class Family Circle where promoter Don King sent in 10,000 turkeys on Dec. 1. Then, in association with UCC, Inc. and Grace Reform Church, gave an additional 3,500 turkeys out on Dec. 8, 1999 to people who are trying to get on their feet in the Kent Street area.

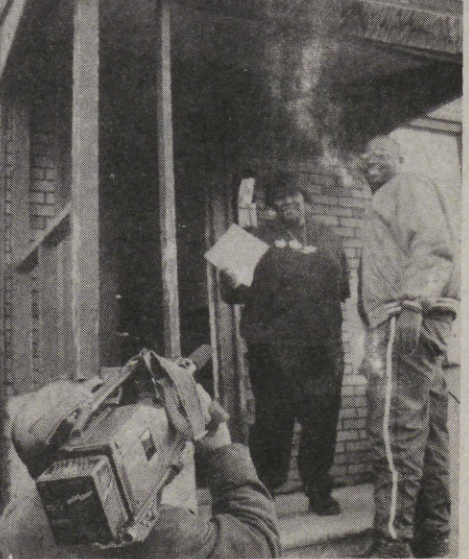
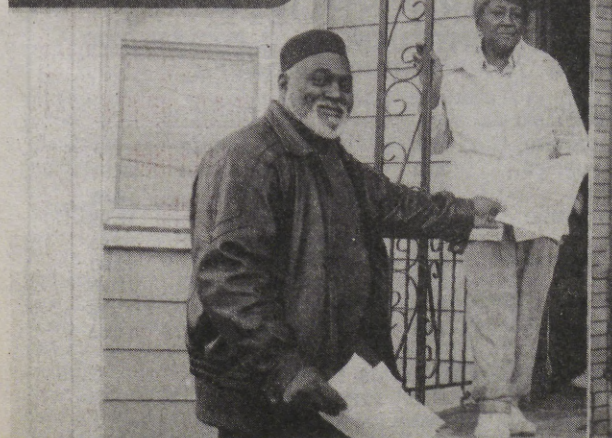
Here you see Carolyn Kelly and Mustafa checking names and addresses of people they were helping, and no one could mistake Rev. Levin West of Gace Reform Baptist Church, Inc, also helping to deliver the turkeys.



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eryone success and good health for the coming year... **Steve of Lynne's Infiniti**, located on Bloomfield Ave. in Bloomfield, wishes his customers smooth riding into the new millennium... **Pete's Sports-O-Rama** is the place to get your sporting equipment, bait, bikes, and hunting equipment. They're open all year round... Craftsmen say that the **Lafayette Hardware** at 135 Lafayette Street, gives the best deals for supplies... **Catering By Design's Shirley M. Cook** has opened a new spot on Commerce Street, just around the corner from Commerce Food Court.

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CHARLIE EARLAND

jazz musician

GROVER WASHINGTON, 56

jazz musician

EARLY WRIGHT

the 'Soul Man'

Early Wright became the first black disc jockey in Mississippi when he went to work at Clarkdale's WROX Radio. Until his retirement in 1998, he hosted one of America's longest continuous-running radio shows and interviewed many celebrities, including Muddy Waters, B.B. King, Ike and Tina Turner, Charley Pride, and Elvis Presley.

SHIRLEY HEMPHILL, 52

famed sitcom TV actress

Ms. Hemphill, who played the waitress on the hit '70s sitcom "What's Happening!!," died of natural causes.

Hemphill is the second "What's Happening!!" cast member to die recently. **Mabel King**, who played the main character's mother, died in early November of this year.



MARY KAY BERGMAN

"South Park" voice actress

She played most of the female characters on show, died of an apparent suicide last month. Bergman is survived by her husband, and her mother.

LORENZO CONYERS JR., 73

velvet voice of Ink Spots

Joining The Ink Spots, when the pioneering vocal group was past its prime as one of the country's premier entertainment acts. The native of Elizabeth, NJ was known to have a voice remarkably similar to that of Bill Kenny, the lead tenor of the original Ink Spots. Mr. Conyers' overriding talent was his "ability to hear around corners" and blend into a group sound with his unique voice, according to Ray Richardson, who heads Ray Richardson's Ink Spots, based mainly in Canada.

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Music Scene... Music Scene...

Famed entertainer Ossie Davis named Chairman of Apollo Theatre in Harlem



The world famous Apollo, the hub of African-American drama and music, and a world-class entertainment venue has named Davis to oversee the development of a new programming schedule and to launch a fund-raising drive for a needed overhaul of everything from seats to the sound system.

Davis and other Apollo officials already are talking about expanding the theater into the vacant lot next door, creating a touring Apollo jazz band and offering training programs for careers in show business.

Some of the venues mentioned are bringing prize-fights, political debates, awards ceremonies, televised concerts, comedy shows and a range of other new programs to the historic stage, where such greats as Cab Calloway, Duke Ellington and Billie Holiday performed.

"We're itching to move forward with the implementation," Davis said.

The new Apollo board members include Beverly Sills; Quincy Jones; George Wein, founder of the Newport Jazz Festival, and Val Azzoli, co-Chairman of Atlantic Records.

Board members have given Davis high marks for his ability to move the Apollo forward. "He is perhaps unique in his ability to build a consensus along the lines of divide," said one board member.

"The Apollo is a place that produces black people's music," Davis said. "It has value and meaning and no one else has the power to produce it. The Apollo symbolizes our power, and that's why it's so meaningful to all of us."



A section of the lobby's mural of the greats: Sarah Vaughan, the Ink Spots, James Brown

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Reflections

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Vol. 4 • No. 8 • October/November 1999

THEY'RE BACK!
a united Democratic Party – the Essex
County Party is alive and well
(see page 3)



In our next issue:

CHRIS ROCK –
when you're hot – you're hot!

THE DATE ON THIS ISSUE SHOULD HAVE
BEEN NO. 11 • OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1999

FYI... FYI... FYI... FYI...

George Foreman inks a \$137M deal

Retired heavyweight champion-turned appliance pitchman George Foreman has inked a new deal with Salton – which makes the grills that carry his name – guaranteeing him lucrative paydays in return for his endorsements, according to staff writer Nancy Dillon of *The Daily News*. The deal is one of the largest endorsement contracts ever. Salton gets global unrestricted use of Foreman's name forever and can forgo the costly 60% royalty it had paid him and his partners to market the fast-selling George Foreman Grills, Big George Rotisserie and George Foreman cookware. A George Foreman Outdoor Grill will debut in the spring.

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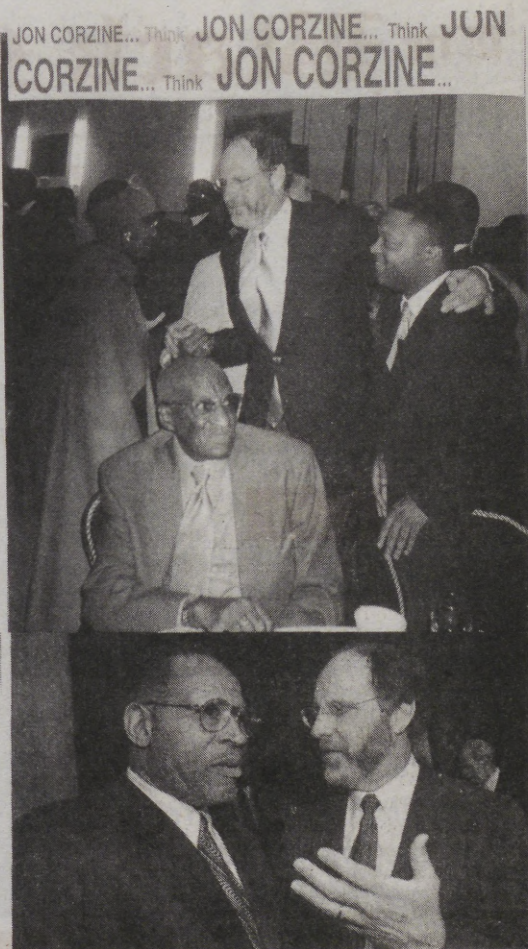
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Jon Corzine at a Senior Citizen Partee!



U.S. Senatorial candidate Jon Corzine, at a recent soiree for senior citizens, with a few supporters like Calvin West, Fred Stalks, and Newark's Mayor Sharpe James. You can control your own destiny through the ballot box. Register now! to vote tomorrow!



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SPORTS in COLOR

Ron Dayne wins Heisman Trophy. He set the rushing record during his four years at Wisconsin, and has earned a number of honors. Ron said "nothing means more to him than his 2-year old daughter, Jada." A gifted player - he's one of us who moved from a fractured home to the joy of fatherhood and family... **Laila Ali** knocked out another opponent recently to go 3 - 0. She's the daughter of champion **Muhammad Ali**. The fight ended with a left-right combination, wow!... Rodeo History: **Fred Whitfield's** fourth calf roping title helped him make history, recently in Las Vegas as the **Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association's** first African American All-Around champion. His season's earnings are a great accomplishment, totaling \$191,727.00...

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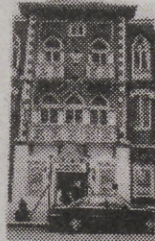
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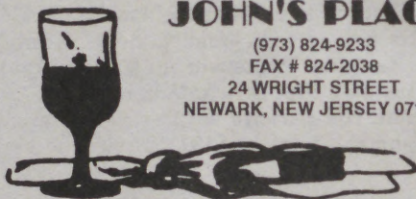
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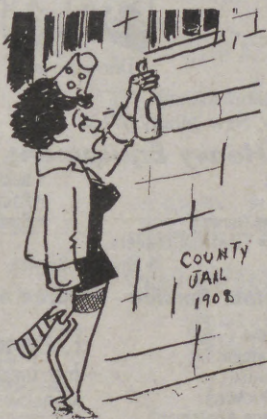
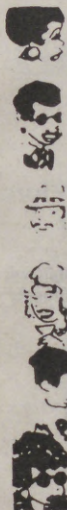
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HAPPY MILLENNIUM! Wow, a thousand years!
Can you dig it? So long 1999, and hello 2000!

To all those sisters who don't have a man, all I can say is: "if you think you're lonely now, wait until next year, dear, cause the brothers are getting less and less each day, remember the young brothers are an endangered species"... *The Shadow* is very disturbed over the many babies that are being thrown away and abused these days. If you don't want the child, just call the cops or an agency, don't hurt it or throw it away. Understand?... With all of the new cars out why are some of the brothers still driving last year's models. I wonder if "slow pay" on the lease has anything to do with it? There's one guy on Lincoln Place in Orange that can't get a new ride because he doesn't believe in paying his bills, as a result, he couldn't get credit on yesterday's *Star Ledger*... By the way, if you see that young brother on So. 12th Street in Newark by Clinton Ave. who thinks he's so smart. (You know the one who's always trying to catch the early worms.) Tell him, the narco men get up early too and he'd better watch out... Speaking of streets, it amazes me about the 1800 block of So. 9th Street in Newark. The police go there so much they might as well open a precinct on the corner - so they won't have so far to travel... Speaking of travel. During the holiday season one of the "fly guys" on Hawthorne Ave. in Newark, tried to get through the gate at Newark Airport recently. But a drug dog went ballistic as he sniffed the passenger's Gucci carry-on bag. (The dog was interested in it because it was a Gucci bag.) Well, I guess our traveler will soon be packing bags of full of license plates... Are you as tired of the "can shakers" as I am, out on the corner begging money for "Rev's new Lexus automobile"?... In the year 2000 maybe we should have a "Million Infant March". So babies can say, I don't want to grow up like my big brother who I have to go to visit in jail every month. The infants might be able to see the big picture and stay away from things that can cause you to become incarcerated... Newark's top cop had a great scam program going for a while to gather up criminals and deadbeats. But, it went too far. Not only did it get the folks who had some serious offenses, but it raked in the ordinary person who might have had a ticket for litter on the sidewalk in front of his property, or putting out the garbage too early, or not recycling. Fortunately, Mayor James put a stop to the program before too many 'innocent folks' were arrested.

- See 'ya in the next millennium (smiles)

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CITY NEWS

April, 1999

Black and Latino lawyers stand defiant against police profiling

By Carl Chae
Staff Writer

EAST ORANGE — Leaders of the Garden State Bar Association and the Hispanic Bar Association stood together recently to condemn the rampant use of profiling by law enforcement agencies in New Jersey.

"As officers of the court, we are appalled at the continued denial by the Attorney General of the State of New Jersey and the leadership of the New Jersey State Police that illegal racial profiling has been and continues to be practiced by some state police officers," the group's president, John E. Page, said in a press conference in East Orange on April 14.

"In fact, figures from the U.S. Justice Department and the U.S. House Judiciary Committee indicate that 72 percent of drivers pulled over for routine traffic stops are African-American," he added. "However, African Americans make up only 14 percent of the national population. The evidence is clear and overwhelming."

"As citizens of the United States and residents of the State of New Jersey, we know that racial profiling exists. In fact, it lessens us and debases us as citizens," he said. "Many of us, whether male or female, have been personally stopped while driving on the highways and in the neighborhoods of this state where we live and work. Our children have been stopped. We have personally suffered the indignities of being stopped by police officers for no reason than driving while black or driving while brown."



Attorney Ronald Thompson of the Garden State Bar Association member Regina Wayne Joseph's personal account of illegal profiling. The group will offer free help to victims through a toll-free number.

Hispanic Bar Association President Ramon De La Cruz added, "The facts and statistics regarding racial profiling are clear and convincing to us."

Indeed, more than a half-dozen members recalled their own gut-wrenching experiences on the wrong end of police scrutiny and humiliation. The incidents often led only to embarrassment for cops and a bitter sense that black citizens, no matter how law-abiding or well-accomplished, continue to be viewed by some as the police officer's natural target.

Raymond Hamlin, attorney of exonerated former murder suspect Terrance Everett (proven innocent of killing Police Officer Joyce Carnegie), recalled an example just three weeks old.

Hamlin and his wife, Urban League of Essex County Executive

Director Zoraya Leal, were stopped in the Mercedes by a Hazlet police officer just because the window tinted. He produced an expired law forbidding stops for window tint, before the police had him and inconvenienced the Hamlin and his wife.

He seemed emotionless when he added, "My son, year-old Raymond Jr., the back seat, and he was wrong."

"The tint on my window was very slight, and you can see inside the car," he said. Hamlin showed the car to reporters outside the press conference at the law office of Ronald Thompson on Harrison Street.

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